

Message Text

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11
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 /032 W
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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1152
INFO ALL AMCONSUL CANADA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB CA PGOV
SUBJECT: GOC VIEWS ON TRIPARTITE CONSULTATIVE BODY

REF: OTTAWA 3733

IN DISCUSSION WITH LABATT AT SEPTEMBER 24 DCM'S
RECEPTION, JAMES COUTTS, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY IN
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, PROVIDED FURTHER INSIGHT
INTO RECENT CABINET MEETING WITH BUSINESS LEADERS
(REFTEL) AND CURRENT GOC VIEWS ON ESTABLISHING
CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM TO OBTAIN LABOR AND BUSINESS
INPUT INTO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POLICY FORMULATION. DURING
SEPTEMBER 13 MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER, BUSINESS
EXECUTIVES NOT ONLY EXPRESSED OPPOSITION TO CLC'S
PROPOSAL FOR TRIPARTITE INSTITUTION WITH EXECUTIVE
POWER BUT ALSO REJECTED IDEA OF LABOR PARTICIPATION
IN ANY GOVERNMENT-BUSINESS CONSULTATIONS. WHILE
GOC WOULD FAR PREFER TRIPARTITE STRUCTURE, IT IS
WILLING TO CONTINUE PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS
SEPARATELY. THEREFORE SECOND MEETING WITH BUSINESS
COMMUNITY END OF OCTOBER WILL BE FOLLOWED BY
FOURTH SESSION WITH CLC AFTER GOC HAS ANALYZED
LEVELS AND MODE OF RANK AND FILE PARTICIPATION
IN OCTOBER 14 CLC-SPONSORED DAY OF PROTEST.
COUTTS SPECULATED THAT AFTER SEPARATE GOC
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CONSULTATIONS WITH BUSINESS AND LABOR, THE EMPLOYER

GROUP MIGHT BE PERSUADED TO ACCEPT TRIPARTITE
SCHEME AS IT HAD PREVIOUSLY DONE IN CANADA LBOR RELATIONS
COUNCIL BEFORE CLC WALKED OUT IN OPPOSITION TO
WAGE AND PRICE CONTROLS.
ENDERS

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